

September 29, 1959

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
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Dear Joshua and Esther:

In working up the order of the Gal mutants I have gotten to Gal₉ and Gal₃ and this has presented me with a problem. According to Esther's abstract of the Genetics Congress; 1958 these two mutants are cistronic with both the 2,8 and 1,4,6,7 groups. Precisely what was the experimental evidence here? I have W3109 (original stock from EML) and W2236 and don't believe that heterogenotes between these stocks and Gal₂⁻ have a negative phenotype. Some of the heterogenotes between W3109, W2236 and 1,4,6,7 may show positive effect, but I don't believe all combinations will. In this connection you had best advise me of genotypes of heterogenotes studied by you and you might also send me "certified" stocks of Gal₃ (W3103?) and Gal₉.

Difco is considering putting out the indicator agar that I devised and has made some experimental lots. I believe that they will send samples for trial to people that I suggest. Would you like a batch for trial?

I haven't yet been able to pick a date for a trip to visit you. Classes are just starting for Helvise and Margaret and in a couple of weeks things will settle down.

As ever,

M. L. Morse, Ph.D.

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